



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes, May 2010

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP

SPY POND COMMITTEE

MAY 4, 2010 MEETING Town Hall Annex, First Floor

Minutes Approved June 8, 2010

In attendance: Brad Barber, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob & Harriet Noyes, Steve Ricci, Stroker Rogovin, Dick Smith.

Facilitator: Steve Ricci

Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

Next meeting: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 7. Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

The **minutes** of the April meeting were accepted as presented.

Ecofest May 2;

- The Spy Pond table was decorated with phragmites and a display of pictures of Trails Day and the phragmites project, but relatively few people stopped at it; the adjacent Sustainable Arlington table had more visitors.
- Other aspects of Ecofest went well - speakers, workshops, musician in Town Hall garden. Many people bought composters which DPW was selling at a discount.
- But overall attendance was down from last year, when it was held in March; in May there are too many other things to do.
- The organizers will hold an evaluation meeting later this week. Ecofest may not be repeated next year but may be done again later.

Trails Day, May 8:

- Preparations are ready and the grass along the path has been mowed.
- Jane announced Trails Day at Town Meeting; reminders should be sent promptly to other groups such as e-mail lists that have received announcements earlier.
- A double-barreled suggestion from the Open Space Committee: Groups that organize cleanups and similar events should communicate and stagger their activities to avoid conflicts and make it possible for eager beavers to participate in more cleanups.. They should also exchange lists of tools (especially big expensive ones like a weed wrench) that they have and could lend to another group when they are not using the items.

Phragmites;

- Phragmites started regrowing in unsprayed areas in late April.
- The Kelwyn Manor association has already submitted its NOI for having phragmites on its land area sprayed in the fall. Brad will submit the NOI for spraying on the island.
- We need a survey of what spots have phragmites left. Could Dave Gillman do it?
- The KM Association, with the support of the Con Com, got a Town grant of \$500 for a wetland seed mix for replanting cleared areas. Cattails are also planned for both KM Park and the island.

Other:

- The new FEMA flood map is sloppily drawn, goes through some houses and doesn't follow the elevation contours around the pond. Mike Rademacher is asking FEMA for a review and corrections.
- More ripples from the rowing program: Some condo residents wrote to the Selectmen complaining that the wake from the coaches' motorboats is eroding their shore; they want the boats kept out of the cove. Bob Noyes noted that he has seen those boats going faster than 10 mph sometimes; maybe enforcing the speed limit would solve the problem. Also, boats have a smaller wake if occupants sit in the middle rather than the stern. Bob offered to draft a letter that Jacob and Steve as co-chairs could send to the high school which administers the rowing program; it would state that the Committee favors use of the pond for rowing as long as it doesn't cause problems, and suggest that the rowers should be careful to avoid doing things that create antagonism.
- The Vision 2020 year-end event will be held on June 15; details to follow.